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10/790,627	03/01/2004	Brad N. Mathiowetz	P32.12-0022	1342
27367 7550 056962011 WESTMAN CHAMPLIN & KELLY, P.A. SUITE: 1400 900 SECOND AVENUE SOUTH MINNEAPOLIS. MN 55402			EXAMINER	
			CHUO, TONY SHENG HSIANG	
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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

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Response to Amendment

1. The addition of the limitations "a plurality of outer elastic layers extending around pairs of opposed first and second half shells configured to hold pairs of first and second half shells against a respective energy storage cell, the plurality of outer elastic layers of a thermally insulating material" and "an outer shell covering the plurality of electrical energy storage cells and coupled to the plurality of elongate separate bars" to claim 1 changes the scope of the claims. Therefore, the proposed amendment raises new issues that would require further search and/or consideration.

TC

/Ula C Ruddock/ Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 1729